<u>CLAIMS</u>

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method comprising:

2   an administrator of a service operator creating one or more administrator

3   accounts for one or more administrators of one or more service providers, and

4   empowering said one or more administrators of said one or more service providers

5   to administer control on user access to function offerings or services of an

6   application by users Of licensees of the service providers;

7   an empowered administrator of a service provider creating one or more

8   administrator accounts for one or more administrators of one or more licensee

9   organizations of licensee enterprises of the service provider, and empowering said

10   one or more administrators of the licensee organizations of the licensee enterprises

11   of the service provider to administer control on user access to function offerings or

12   services of said application by uses of the licensee organizations of the licensee

13   enterprises of the service provider; and

14   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization creating one or more

15   end user accounts for one or more end users, and enabling said one or more end

16   users to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, the method further comprises an administrator of a

2   service operator directly creating one or more administrator accounts for one or

3   more administrators for one or more licensee organizations of licensee enterprises

4   of a service provider of the service operator, and empowering said one or more

5   administrators of said one or more licensee organizations of said licensee

6   enterprises.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, the method further comprises an administrator of a

2   service operator directly creating one or more end user accounts for one or more

3   end users for one or more licensee organizations of one or more licensee

4   enterprises of a service provider of the service operator, and enabling said one or

5   more end users to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, the method further comprises an administrator of a

2   service provider directly creating one or more end user accounts for one or more

3   end users of a licensee organization of a licensee enterprise, and enabling said one

4   or more end users to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, the method further comprises an administrator of a

2   licensee organization creating one or more user groups, and enabling members of

3   said user groups to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, the method further comprises said administrator of

2   the licensee organization selectively enrolling end users of the licensee organization

3   to be members of said user groups of the licensee organization.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of a service operator defining a service constituted with a plurality of

3   service components or a function offering constituted with a plurality of defined

4   services.

1   8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of a service operator empowering one or more of administrators of one

3   or more service providers to administer authorization of access to function offerings

4   or services of the application by users of licensees of the service providers.

1   9.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of a service provider empowering one or more administrators of one or

3   more licensee organizations of licensee enterprises of the service provider to

4   administer authorization of access to function offerings or services of said

5   application by users of the licensee organizations.

1   10.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of a licensee organization authorizing members of one or more user

3   groups to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   11.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of a licensee organization authorizing end users of the licensee

3   organizations to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   12.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an

2   administrator of a service provider authorizing members of one or more user groups

3   of licensee organizations of licensee enterprises of the service provider to access

4   function offerings or services of said applications.

1   13.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises an empowered

2   administrator of service provider authorizing end users of licensee organizations of

3   licensee enterprises of the service provider to access function offerings or services

4   of said application.

1   14.   A method comprising:

2   an administrator of a service operator creating one or more administrator

3   accounts for one or more administrators of service providers, and empowering said

4   one or more administrators of said service providers to administer control on user

5   access to function offerings or services of said application by end users of licensees

6   of said service providers; and

7   an empowered administrator of a service provider creating one or more

8   administrator accounts for one or more administrators of licensee organizations of

9   licensee enterprises of the service provider, and empowering said one or more

10   administrators of said licensee organizations of said licensee enterprises to

11   administer control on user access to function offerings or services of said application

12   by end users of said licensee organizations of said licensee enterprises.

1   15.   The method of claim 14, wherein the method further comprises

2   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization creating one or more

3   user groups or one or more end user accounts for one or more end users of said the

4   licensee organization, and enabling members of said user groups or said end users

5   to access to function offerings or services of said application.

1   16.   A method comprising:

2   an empowered administrator of a service provider of an application creating

3 one or more administrator accounts for one or more administrators of licensee

4 organizations of licensee enterprises, and empowering said one or more

5 administrators of the licensee organizations to administer control on user access to

6 function offerings or services of said application by end users of said licensee

7 organizations of said licensee enterprises; and

8   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization creating one or more

9 user groups, and empowering members of said one or more user groups to access

10 function offerings or services of said application.

1   17.   The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises

2   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization creating one or more

3 end user accounts for one or more end users of said licensee organization, and

4 enabling said end users to access function offerings or services of said application.

1   18.   A method comprising:

2   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization of an application

3 creating one or more user groups , and empowering members of said one or more

4 user groups to access function offerings or services of said application; and

5   the empowered administrator of the licensee organization creating one or

6 more end user accounts for one or more end users of said licensee organization,

7 and enabling said end users to access said function offerings/services of said

8 application.

1   19.   A method comprising:

2   an empowered administrator of a service operator of an application creating a

3   first and a second service of said application, constituted with a first and a second

4   plurality of service components of said application respectively, or creating a first

5   and a second function offering of said application, constituted with a first and a

6   second plurality of services of said application respectively, and empowering one or

7   more administrators of a service provider of the application to administer control on

8   user access to said first and second services or the first and second function

9   offerings by end users of licensees of said service provider; and

10   an empowered administrator of the service provider empowering one or more

11   administrators of licensee organizations of licensee enterprises of the service

12   provider to administer control on user access to the first and second function

13   offerings of said application or to said first and second services of said application

14   by end users of said licensee organizations of said licensee enterprises.

1   20.   The method of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises

2   a first empowered administrator of a licensee organization enabling a first

3   user of the licensee organization to access said first function offering or said first

4   service; and

5   a second empowered administrator of a licensee organization enabling a

6   second user of the licensee organization to access said second function offering or

7   said second service.

1   21.   A method comprising:

2   an empowered administrator of a licensee organization of an application

3   empowering members of one or more user groups of the licensee organization to

4   access a first and a second function offering of said application, constituted with a

5   first and a second plurality of services of said application respectively, or a first and

6   second service of said application, constituted with first and second plurality of

7   service components of said application respectively; and

8   the empowered administrator of the licensee organization enabling a first

9   user of the licensee organization to access said first function offering or said first

10   service; and

11   the empowered administrator of the licensee organization enabling a second

12   user of the licensee organization to access said second function offering or said

13   second service.

1   22.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming

3   instructions implementing an administrator/user account creation/management tool

4   that, when executed, facilitates creation by an administrator of a service operator of

5   an application, one or more administrator accounts for one or more administrators of

6   one or more service providers, and empowerment of said one or more

7   administrators of said one or more service providers to administer control on user

8   access of function offerings or services of said application by end users of licensees

9   of said service providers; the programming instructions, when executed, further

10   facilitates creation by an empowered administrator of the service operator, one or

11   more administrator accounts for one or more administrators of said licensees of said

12   service providers, and empowerment of said one or more administrators of said

13   licensees of said service providers to administer control on user access to function

14   offerings or services of said application by end users of said licensees of said

15   service providers; and

16   at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute said

17   programming instructions.

1   23.   The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the storage medium further having stored

2   therein a second plurality of programming instructions implementing an application

3   offering creation/management tool, when executed, facilitates definition by said

4   administrator of said service operator, a plurality of services of said application,

5   constituted with service components of said application, or a plurality of function

6   offerings of said application, constituted with services of said application, and

7   empowerment of said administrators of said service providers to administer control

8   on user access to said function offerings or said services of said application.

1   24.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming

3   instructions implementing an application offering creation/management tool that,

4   when executed, facilitates creation by an administrator of a service operator of an

5   application, one or more services of said application, constituted with service

6   components of said application, or one or more function offerings of said application,

7   constituted with services of said application ; the programming instructions, when

8   executed, further at least assists in authorization by an empowered administrator of

9   a licensee of the application, of members of one or more user groups administrators

10   of said licensee to function offerings or services of said application by end users of

11   said licensee; and

12   at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute said

13   programming instructions.

1   25.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming

3   instructions implementing an administrator/user creation/management tool that,

4   when executed, facilitates creation by an empowered administrator of a licensee

5   organization of an application, one or more user groups, and empowering members

6   of said one or more user groups to access function offerings or services of said

7   application by end users of said licensee organization; and facilitates creation by an

8   empowered administrator of said licensee organization, one or more end user

9   accounts for one or more end users of said licensee organization, and enabling said

10   end users to access function offerings or services of said application; and

11   at least one processor coupled to the storage medium to execute said

12   programming instructions.

1   26.   The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the storage medium further having stored

2   therein second plurality of programming instructions implementing an application

3   offering creation/management tool, when executed, facilitates authorization by an

4   empowered administrator of a licensee organization members of one or more user

5   groups of the licensee organization to access function offerings or services of said

6   application by end users of said licensee organization.

1   27.   The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the second programming instructions,

2   when executed, further facilitates enabling by said administrator of said licensee

3   organization, a first and a second end user of said licensee organization to access

4   function offerings or services of said application.

1